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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)

DATE DISTR. 11 August 1952

SUBJECT Port of Novorossiysk

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ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Naval vessels based, or calling at Novorossiysk usually anchor in the northwestern part of the port, at the Timber Wharf, Wharf No. 5. Usually ships do not come alongside but rather they tie up, keeping their bows ten to fifteen meters from the wharf.
2. The shore establishment is situated between the shore end of the wharf and the railroad line, which separates the naval base from the artillery barracks. All buildings are old constructions and still show signs of wartime damage. The walls are cracked and some sailors were observed repairing the roofs. The largest building, a two-story construction, is used to accommodate personnel. There is also a small repair workshop.
3. On 29 January 1952, the (presumably a type of escort vessel) was sighted off Novorossiysk Bay. The ship was at the Novorossiysk naval base on 2 February; she left port on that day and returned on 3 February. The ship is colored deep blue; she has a dark blue funnel with a black rim around the top. Her armament consists of the following:
 - a. two guns in forward turret
 - b. two AA guns immediately abaft the mast
 - c. two torpedo tubes in the waist, both on port and starboard
 - d. two pompoms on what appeared to be the aft director superstructure
 - e. two guns in turret abaft the aft director
 - f. one gun in aft turret.

She has a pole mast and is fitted with WT and DF; a searchlight is placed

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at mid-mast height. On the mast comb-shaped aerals were observed. When sighted off the bay she was cruising at 20 to 23 knots. She was the only ship of her class seen in Novorossiysk.

4. A sketch of the ship is shown on Attachment 1 and is labeled A. The letters A and B on sketch indicate positions of directors.

5. On 2 February 1952, the [] (a type of escort vessel) was at anchor at the naval base. She left the port on 9 February to join a formation on maneuvers (see para. 8 below). The [] a ship of the same class, was undergoing repairs at the naval base. These ships are painted dark blue, while the funnel is painted black around the rim. They seem to be old vessels and their armament consists of the following:

- a. two guns in forward turret
- b. two guns in aft turret
- c. two AA guns immediately abaft the bridge
- d. two pompoms abaft the funnel
- e. depth charges abaft the rear turret.

They are fitted with WT, DF, and searchlights. No fire control equipment was observed.

6. A sketch of these ships is shown on Attachment 1 and is labeled B.

7. The [] was at the naval base having a new deck installed. She appeared to be of the same class as the []

8. On 9 February 1952 a naval formation came at anchor about eight miles off port. The formation consisted of the following:

- a. what appeared to be two large destroyers
- b. what appeared to be four escort vessels
- c. six minesweepers

9. The minesweepers [] anchored at the naval base on 9 February. They are painted dark blue all over with a white band around the middle of the funnel. Armament consists of the following:

- a. one gun forward
- b. two AA guns abaft the mast
- c. two Oerlikon guns abaft the funnel
- d. two guns on superstructure above the engine room
- e. one gun aft (apparently not marked on the sketch).

Each has a pole mast which is fitted with WT, DF, and a searchlight. Each has a comb-shaped aerial. Over the bow there is a device which resembles a net cutter. It is presumed to be a type of acoustic sweeping device.

10. A sketch of the minesweeper is shown on Attachment 1 and is labeled C. Letters A and B on the sketch indicate positions of what appeared to be directors.

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11. The minesweepers [] were at the 25X1
 naval base. On 4 February the [] embarked some army 25X1
 officers and men dressed in green overalls. Later they left port and
 carried out firing exercises about five miles off Novorossiysk. The ships 25X1
 were cruising and engaged a floating target about 30 meters long from a
 distance of 2,000 to 2,500 meters. They first fired a few single shots
 and then the [] discontinued the exercise to return to her base. []
 [] no reason for this return. The two remaining ships continued
 to engage the target with rapid fire at intervals. In the evening they
 returned to the port.

12. The minesweepers mentioned above are painted dark blue all over. There
 is a white band around the middle of the funnel and a black triangle
 near the funnel rim. Their armament consists of the following:

- a. two rapid fire guns forward
- b. two AA guns on the bridge
- c. two small Oerlikon guns abaft the funnel
- d. two small guns aft

Depth charges colored dark blue with a white band around the middle are
 placed near the stern. A windlass for the sweeping cable is also near
 the stern. Red painted otters in a row are stored on deck on both sides
 of the bridge.

13. A sketch of these ships is shown on Attachment and is labeled D. 25X1

14. The vessels [] which resemble 25X1
 coast guard cutters, were at the naval base. On 6 February []
 left port. They returned in the evening and disembarked some military
 personnel who had not been aboard on leaving the port. On the same day
 [] left port and attempted to lay a smoke
 screen about two miles off the breakwaters. The maneuvers were interrupted
 by stormy weather and the ships returned to the base.

14. These ships are painted dark blue also. They are armed with one small
 gun forward, two Oerlikon guns on the bridge, and one small gun aft.
 They are fitted with WT, DF, and a searchlight.

15. A sketch of these ships is shown on Attachment 1 and is labeled E.

Attachments: One

1. Five sketches of Naval units observed at Novorossiysk.

1. [] Comment: [] referring to the Timber Wharf or
 Wharf No. 5 probably is using the designation of a British Admiralty Chart.

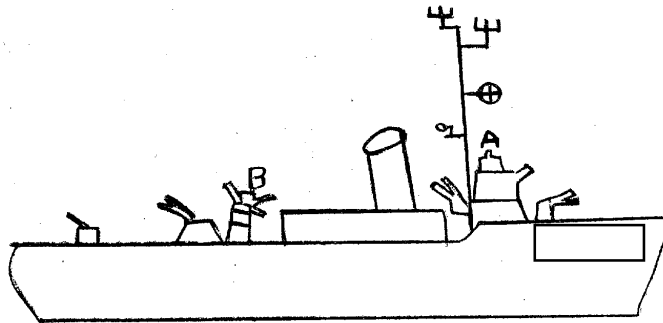
[] Comment: The description and the sketch of the ships in paragraph
 nine seem to fit the Soviet modified version of the German M-43 class minesweeper.

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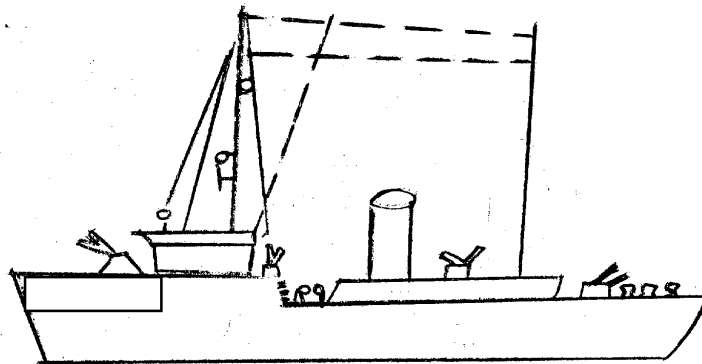
Attachment 1

A:



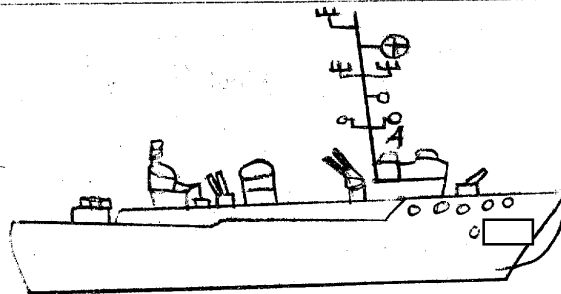
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B:



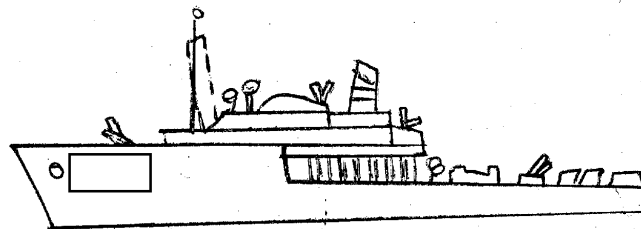
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C:



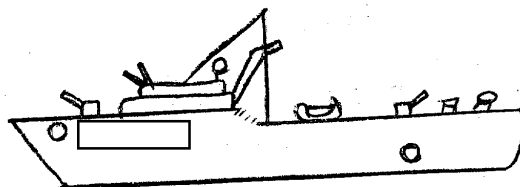
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D:



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E:



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